



Research Data Alliance: Next Steps

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(presentation at rd-alliance.org)

RDA Vision and Purpose

Vision

*Researchers around the world
sharing and using research data without barriers.*

Purpose

*... to accelerate international
data-driven innovation and discovery
by facilitating research data
sharing and exchange,
use and re-use,
standards harmonization, and discoverability. ...
through the development and adoption of **infrastructure,**
policy, practice, standards, and other deliverables.*

RDA Principles

Openness

- Membership is open to all interested organizations,
- all meetings are public,
- RDA processes are transparent, and
- all RDA products are freely available to the public;

Consensus

- The RDA moves forward by achieving consensus and
- resolves disagreements through appropriate voting mechanisms;

Balance

- The RDA is organized on the principle of balanced representation for individual organizations and stakeholder communities;

Harmonization

- The RDA works to achieve harmonization across standards, policies, technologies, tools, and other data infrastructure elements;

Voluntary

- The RDA is not a government organization or regulatory body and, instead, is a public body responsive to its members; and

Non-profit

- RDA is not a commercial organization and will not design, promote, endorse, or sell commercial products, technologies, or services.

Research Data Alliance:

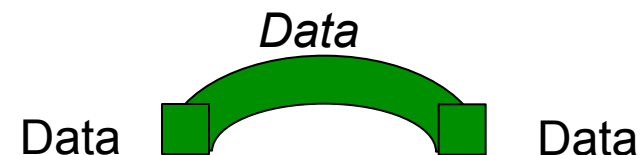
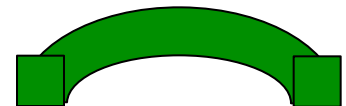
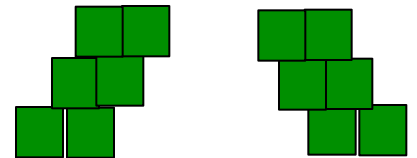
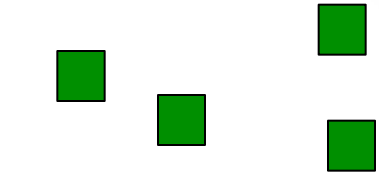


What does “*getting on with it*” mean?

- Developing the building blocks
- Building data bridges

which

- Requires rough consensus
- Data exchange (equivalent of “running code”)





Data Practitioners Domain

Working Groups

- Carry out work of RDA
- Reach consensus on outputs
- May suggest BoFs about new topics
- Open to all but...
 - some commitment expected

Plenary

- Open to all persons involved in RDA
- Hears and comments on reports from WGs
- Suggests new BoFs
- Hears candidates for TAC

Technical Advice Committee

- advise on WG work activities
- Interacting directly with working groups
- advise on new WGs and new BoFs
- Give implementation suggestions to strategic direction from council

Administrative Domain

Administration and Management Team

- Implement strategic direction set by council
- Supports the activities of the RDA
 - Arrange plenary meetings
 - Run the on-line for a
 - Manage documents
- Convene nominating committees for
 - Council and TAC
- Monitor and controls finances
- Prepare reports for
 - Council, funders,....

Council

- Set strategic direction
- Final vote on governance matters
 - Approve new WGs (TAC advised)
 - control balanced WG approach

- use for all kinds of activities, open to all RDA members

Online Open Interaction Fora

RDA Development Status

Pre Global Data Meeting

- Initial discussions: Vision, Purpose, WG, Governance, Membership, etc.
- Planning for October Meeting

Global Data Meeting

- Community information and input
- Feedback on initial discussion issues
- Germination of vanguard Working Groups

Pre-launch

- Continuing conceptualization of operations and bylaws, etc.; community feedback solicited through website
- Population of Council, Sec., vanguard Working Groups

March 2013 Plenary Launch

- High-impact plenary speakers
- Approval of by-laws, org. members, affiliate partners, etc.
- Reports on vanguard WGs and approval of new WGs, etc.

Need to Continue Developing / Forming Research Data Alliance

- **RDA is a forum for specific efforts that accelerate the sharing and exchange of research data**
- RDA Working Groups characterized by
 - Measurable outcomes
 - Short-term focus
 - “Value added” to existing efforts
- **Working Groups efforts should pass the “Monday morning” (next year) test:**
 - What are the “Monday morning” action items? *and then ...*
 - What will be different (better) on Monday morning as a result of Working Group efforts?

Next Steps for You

- **How to be / stay involved:**
 - Develop WG concept that promotes data sharing and exchange with measurable outcomes and is so important that you are willing to spend time on it
 - Provide feedback to NGS group on all aspects of RDA conceptualization (through **enquiries@rd-alliance.org** and through **rd-alliance.org** website)
 - Tell us what we ought do! (study groups?, working with existing efforts?, resourcing?)
- Candidate Working Group breakout groups and other groups who are interested in moving forward to be a **Candidate Working Group** should fill out the **fuller Case Statement Template** (will be at rd-alliance.org by October 19)
- Feedback on other working groups – we need rough consensus!
- **Feedback** on policies, procedures, approaches to enquiries@rd-alliance.org

Draft Working Group Case Statement

1. **WG Charter:** *A concise articulation of what issues the WG will address within a 12-18 month time frame and what its outcomes or “deliverables” will be*
2. **Value Proposition:** *A specific description of who will benefit from the adoption / implementation of the WG outcomes / “deliverables” and what tangible impacts the adoption / implementation of the deliverables should have.*
3. **Action Plan:** *A specific plan for adoption / implementation of the WG deliverables within the organizations and institutions represented by WG members, and plans for adoption / implementation of the deliverables more broadly within the community.*
4. **Work Plan:** *A specific and detailed description of how the WG will operate including*
 - *The form and description of final deliverables of the WG*
 - *The form and description of documents, code or intermediate deliverables that will be developed during the course of the WG’s work*
 - *The WG’s planned approach to broader community engagement and participation*
5. **Initial Membership:** *A specific list of initial members of the WG. A description of the initial leadership for the WG.*

Draft RDA Working Group “Workflow”

“Bottom-up” increase of interest resulting in candidate WG coming together and development of a Case Statement



Discussion and approval of candidate WG Case Statement by RDA, launch of formal Working Group

Working Group 12-18 month effort culminating in adoption and implementation of its “Action Plan”

Post-completion continuation of action of Working Group members and broader community, continued promotion by RDA

Next Steps for Organisers

- Quickly enhance the website to support community discussion and interest
- Work with Candidate Working Groups to prepare viable Case Statements
- *Work with new proposals*
- Developing operational arrangements
- Preparing for the Gothenburg launch/plenary/party!

Next Steps for Funders / Organizational Members

- Appoint initial Council
- Continue working internally, nationally, and internationally to support RDA emergence and efforts as possible
- Support efforts to recruit additional RDA organizational members and publicize RDA goals
- Assist with recruiting high-profile speakers for the March Plenary

Thanks for being part of this meeting and contributing to the RDA

- This won't happen without you
- This won't help the community without real participation, real specifics, real impact
- Please stay involved and we will see you in Sweden on March 18-20 for the first RDA Plenary!

